

SURVEY OF CURRENT EVENTS

ATTEMPTS TO JUMP ON RUNNING-BOARD OF PRESIDENT'S AUTO.

Richard Cullen, aged twenty-two, a machinist, who was taken into custody after attempting to jump on the running-board of an automobile in which President Wilson was riding in Pittsburgh, was examined by physicians and ordered sent to the City Home at Mayview for further observation regarding his sanity. Cullen was knocked away from the car by a secret service man. He chased the President's conveyance for a block before he was arrested by local detectives.

Cullen denied that he intended harming the President, saying he was not satisfied with the administration's foreign policies, and just wanted to talk to him. A bottle of liquid in a bag carried by Cullen was found to contain medicine, according to the police. A knife with a blade five inches long and several wood chisels were also in the bag. Cullen has been attending night school at a local technical institute, working during the day for a steel company.

CARRANZA LAND PLAN FOR MEXICO.

General Carranza's plan for restoring the land in Mexico to the people is pronounced by Frank P. Walsh, former chairman of the Federal Commission on Industrial Relations, one of the most essentially democratic movements in history. Mr. Walsh, known throughout the country as a close student of economic and sociological affairs, has nothing but words of praise for the plan by which General Carranza is striving to solve what Mr. Walsh sees to be Mexico's one big problem, the distribution of land.

Mr. Walsh believes that if the workingmen throughout the United States knew what General Carranza was trying to do, they would no longer have any doubt whether Washington's policy of watchful waiting was wise. He has spent several years in Mexico and keeps in close touch with many of the business men there.

Mr. Walsh points out that a minority of 60,000 of Mexico's inhabitants hold the land peopled by her 15,000,000. The Carranza plan would gradually give back to the peon the soil upon which he must labor to produce a livelihood. The safeguards thrown around the agrarian commissions, which would have charge of this work, were especially praiseworthy. It was well that the Carranza government refused to allow a military man to serve on these commissions, and it was equally fitting that the amount of land held by the commissioners themselves should be limited. In Yucatan, says Mr. Walsh, the new plan seems to have reached its greatest development up to this time. There, though the mine owners were the same, the mine workers owned the land around the mine, and already daily wages had been raised from 20 to 80 hectares.

VILLA LOOKS VERY WELL.

Thomas Mendez, a mining man employed by one of the companies in the Cusiuhuiachi district, is at El Paso to receive remedial treatment for wounds inflicted by Villa bandits. Mendez said he was in Cusiuhuiachi when Villa and Salazar entered there with 800 men on September 26th. He was called from his home and taken before Villa himself for examination. After being told that he could go, Villa warned him that if he ever worked for an American com-

pany he would be executed, Mendez said.

After returning to his home and retiring, Mendez says he was awakened by the screams of his wife, and discovered that Martin Lopez, a brother of Pablo Lopez, and a band of Villa's men, were looting his home. He started to run, when a bandit shot him, he said, the bullet striking him in the leg. As he lay on the floor, Lopez shot him again. The bullet tore through his lips and lodged in the back of his neck.

Mendez said Villa looked unusually well, and had shaved off the beard which he was reported to have worn at the attack on Chihuahua City.

AMERICANS ATTACKED BY MEXICANS.

American troops and Mexicans clashed near San Jose, in the Big Bend country, Friday afternoon, according to a report received by General Funston early Friday night from Colonel Joseph Gaston, commander of the district. The fight lasted for forty-five minutes. No losses were suffered by the Americans, and information is lacking regarding loss among the Mexicans.

Colonel Gaston's report said that a band of about thirty Mexicans opened fire on a detachment composed of twenty-three men of the Sixth Cavalry and Texas National Guard Cavalry Squadron, engaged in patrol duty between Presidio and Ruidosa. Lieutenant Cudington, of the Texas squadron, commanding the troops, ordered his men to return the fire.

A vigorous exchange of shots continued for a period of forty-five minutes, the Americans and Mexicans firing in skirmish formation from covered positions on either side of the Rio Grande. Information from Colonel Gaston did not indicate that the United States troops crossed in pursuit of the Mexicans. After the fight Lieutenant Cudington returned to Ruidosa with his command.

Whether the Mexicans were de facto government troops or members of a bandit band was not known by General Funston.

Colonel Gaston reported that Major Anderson, of the Sixth Cavalry, has gone to San Jose to investigate the incident, as has Colonel Riojas, commander of the Carranza garrison at Ojinaga.

GREECE.

The main developments of the Greek situation are that on Tuesday the British Minister had a long audience with King Constantine, following a summons from the latter. No official statement has been issued and considerable reserve is maintained, but it appears the King wished to explain to the Entente governments, through the British Minister, the meaning of the Thessaly concentration, which the Entente considered suspicious. The King offered as a guarantee of good faith to withdraw the troops in Athens if the Allies would withdraw their coercive measures.

The French forces in Athens were increased, which appears to have impressed the authorities. Admiral du Fournet has visited the Premier and Foreign Minister, and is hopeful of an improvement in the situation. He has emphasized to the Greek government his measures are aimed solely at remedying the insufficiency of the Greek police force, which encourages unruly elements to create disorders liable at any moment to develop dangerous

proportions. He announced that the French detachment will actively assist in the policing of Athens with a view to maintaining order.

The appearance of the French patrol for the first time on Wednesday evening caused a slight outbreak in Stadium street, Athens' chief thoroughfare, where eighty French marines from the Zappeion gardens were followed by a large and rowdy crowd. The marines eventually charged the mob, who were shouting "Down with France," and nine arrests were made, the Greek cavalry patrol in the street making no effort to assist. On returning to headquarters six prisoners were released and three detained, including the King's veterinary surgeon, who had a letter to Queen Sophia on him and also a revolver. He was among those who shouted "Down with France." Otherwise the night passed quietly in view of the strong detachments in the street.

The artillery are stationed in the Stadium and machine guns on the Parliament building.

The crowds in Athens have again become rather unruly. Reservists and other rowdy elements in Athens practically monopolize some streets, the police and gendarmes making no effort to control them. They appear to be plentifully supplied with money, which Entente circles declare comes from the German legation.

Meantime the wildest rumors are in circulation, the latest being that the United States navy is now sailing down the Mediterranean to rescue the Greeks from the Entente. Demonstrators on Tuesday presented a long declaration to the United States Minister declaring Greece to be the victim of one of the rival groups because she did not wish to fight, and calling upon America to use her influence to avert subjugation of the Greeks. The minister agreed to forward the statement, but added personally that it was the policy of the United States to "avoid intervention in European affairs."

The provisional government has taken possession of the royal residence at Salonika, where the national triumvirate is installed. M. Politis, Foreign Minister of the provisional government, has notified the allied military commanders and the consular body on assuming office.

HINDENBURG AGAINST "FRIGHT-FULNESS."

Field Marshal von Hindenburg has at last come out emphatically against a more ruthless prosecution of Germany's submarine campaign. The Berlin newspaper Germania says that at last Saturday's sitting of the "Independent committee for German peace terms," Privy Councillor Duisberg appeared before the committee, saying that he came in an official capacity as the envoy of von Hindenburg. He added that the Field Marshal requested the committee to abandon all agitation for a more ruthless prosecution of the submarine campaign.

General von Ludendorff has joined his chief, Field Marshal von Hindenburg, in opposing a more ruthless prosecution of submarine warfare. General von Ludendorff has announced his views through a letter which was read at a big public meeting at Magdeburg, October 18th, by the National Liberal leader, Shiffer. The letter said, in part: "The hopes of our enemies, based on extraordinary simultaneous exertions on all

fronts, can only be frustrated through mighty efforts on our part. We will accomplish this if the German people stand united behind us, give us their confidence, and do not demoralize the army by controversies over the expediency of means and ways to success."

NEW ZEALANDERS IN SOMME ACTION.

A visit to the Somme battlefield is described by Malcolm Ross, the official war correspondent with the New Zealand forces, in recent dispatches received by Sir Thomas Mackenzie, the High Commissioner, in London.

I have returned to the Somme battlefield, he says, and for a week past have been a privileged witness of the preparations for the momentous battle just commenced. During their preliminary bombardment our guns must have thrown at least 12,000,000 shells on the enemy's lines and positions. Soon after dawn the attack commenced on a grand scale. The spectacle was more wonderful even than the July bombardment. Every hollow and slope held batteries of our flashing guns. In a few minutes the front for miles was one continuous line of clouds, in which one saw the flashings of innumerable shells. On the left the Germans fired shells that burst in a rain of red sparks and sent long pillars of light gray smoke skyward. These bent serpent-wise, and, gradually descending to earth, formed a bank of fog that crept gradually across our terrain. In half an hour the whole battle front of woods, villages and rolling downs was enveloped in an ever-spreading cloud of ashen gray, out of which came our planes, still holding the mastery of the air and dropping messages as to how the tide of battle was going.

The New Zealanders, who have the honor of being in the new phase of the Somme advance, fought hard and successfully on September 15th, capturing several lines of German trenches and pushing on right beyond Fliers village, which they assisted in taking and holding during the night. Leaving their assembly trench in the early morning, they went over the parapet and took the first weakly held German trench in their stride. Then, pushing on behind a creeping barrage, they went gallantly through the German shrapnel, high explosive, and machine gun fire and captured an important trench. This trench taken, the brigade passed over it, and they advanced close behind a further creeping barrage. The leading waves assaulted and took a trench 1,000 yards further one. Here one of the armored land cruisers did good work. In one place it charged through uncut German wire. All this time the brigade was moving steadily onward, and the leading waves found two lines of trenches and a long communication trench. These trenches they also took. One armored car charged slowly right into the village in front of the cheering infantry, a scene unparalleled in war. We got beyond this objective, but as there were some gaps in the line the men had to be brought back a short distance. They dug in on the line. A threatened German counter-attack was beaten back by our artillery. Others were prevented largely by the same means. All night the brigade bravely held on and even occupied a bit of ground beyond our own area on the right.

Accurate.

When Alton Michael Packward asked the porter of the Great Southern at Gulfport, Miss.:

"Is that the Gulf of Mexico?" the porter replied: "Only a po'shun of it, sah."—Lyceum Magazine.